Proof of Vaccination now required for all Athletics Ontario Events & Activities

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Following the September 9th [Athletics Canada Announcement](https://athletics.ca/athletics-canada-makes-full-vaccination-mandatory/) and after reviewing the results of our membership survey regarding vaccine requirements, Athletics Ontario will now mandate that all individuals eligible to receive the vaccine (ages 12 and older) must provide proof of full vaccination in order to participate or attend Athletics Ontario sanctioned indoor track, outdoor track and cross country events or activities. Those with legitimate medical exemptions will be asked to provide a negative Covid-19 test result from within 72 hours prior to the event.

Full vaccination requires two separate doses of the covid-19 vaccine and will need to be completed at a minimum, two weeks or 14 days prior to the date of competition, in compliance with the provincial guidelines.

Athletics Ontario is committed to ensuring a safe environment for our athletes, coaches, officials, fans and volunteers and we feel that this new mandate is the first step in ensuring safe play as we move forward into our upcoming Cross Country and Indoor seasons.

For our Road and Trail running community, Athletics Ontario strongly recommends any races that have already obtained an AO 2021 sanction to require proof of full vaccination for all participants, staff and volunteers for the event.  Any future AO sanctions will only be granted to races that require proof of full vaccination for all participants, staff and volunteers. As with the rest of our [sanction criteria](https://athleticsontario.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/AO-Sanction-Criteria-Sept21.pdf), this decision ensures the highest level of safety for everyone involved in the event.

Please see the updated Risk Assessment and Safety Protocols here: <https://athleticsontario.ca/sports/road-running/>

In coordination with Athletics Canada and the Ontario Provincial government, each attendee will need to provide proof of double vaccination before each sporting event. The vaccine certificate can be downloaded in PDF form from this website >> <https://covid19.ontariohealth.ca/> <<

Masks will still be required and mandatory at all Athletics Ontario indoor events. Athletes competing will not be required to wear one during competition, but will need to comply with the government’s mask requirements before and after their respective event. All coaches, volunteers and spectators will need to wear a mask at all times.

Athletics Ontario also strongly encourages all of its member clubs and athletes to follow similar protocols, to comply with the government’s guidelines in helping to curb the spread of Covid-19.

AO sanctioned events are expected to fully comply with any local or municipal guidelines that may include additional restrictions.

More details will be shared on the implementation of the policy and the administration of legitimate medical exemptions and event protocols.